

November 2004

8th U.S. Army's

ROK Steady

Whatever
your role...

“BE SAFE”



1-52nd Aviation Regiment Soldiers demonstrate slingloading with a CH-47 Chinook helicopter at Camp Humphreys, Aug 11. Photo by Spc. Daniel Love

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Graphic and photos by Spc. Daniel Love.

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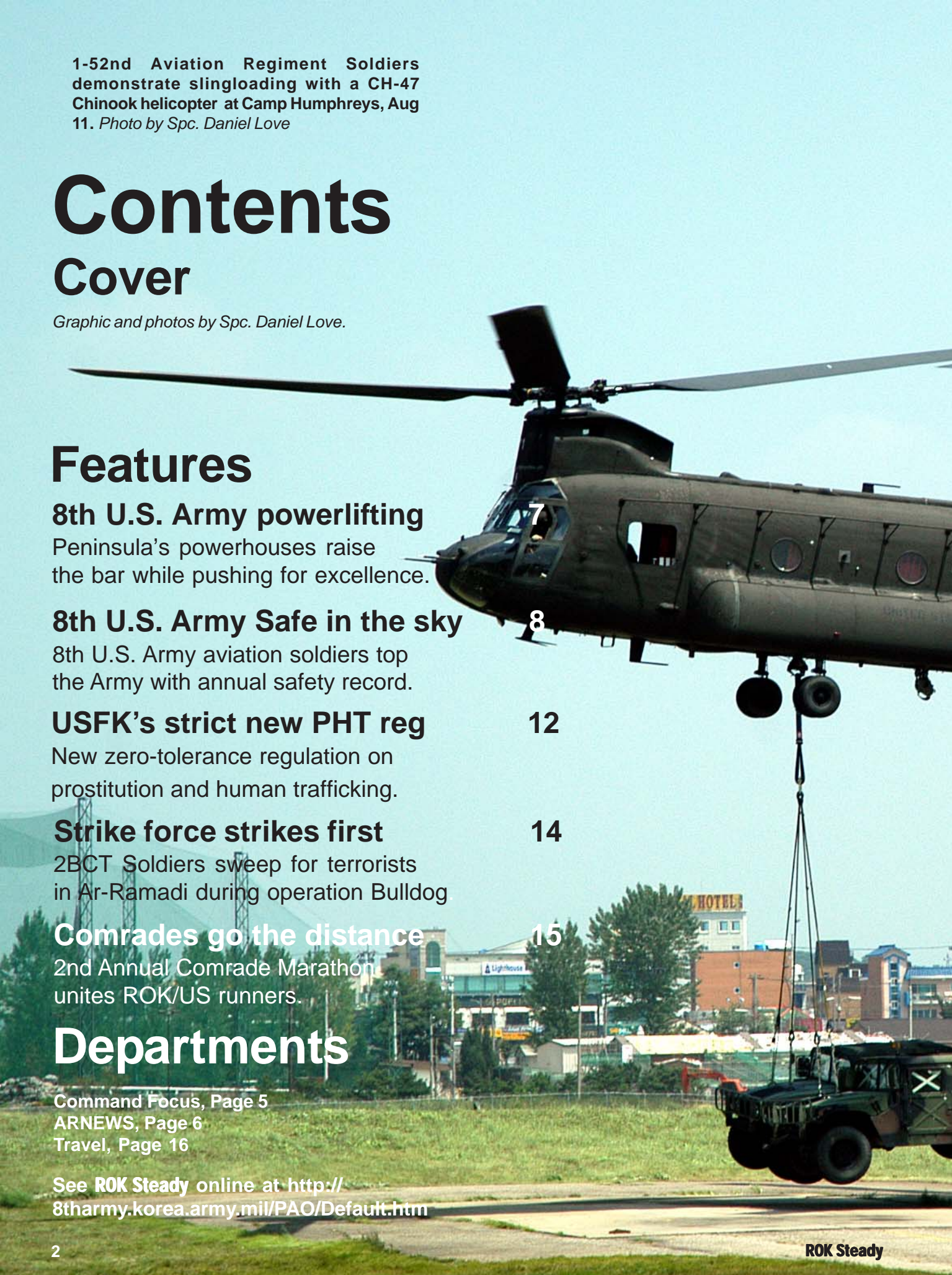
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ROK Steady

The only peninsula-wide magazine for the 8th U.S. Army Community



A Soldier carries the Stars and Stripes during the 2nd Annual Comrade Marathon Oct. 24. Over a thousand servicemembers and civilians from both the ROK and the U.S. participated. Photo by Spc. Daniel Love

**November 2004
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Driving privileges change to keep Soldiers safe

By Command Sgt. Maj. Troy J. Welch
Command sergeant major, 8th U.S. Army

November is Safety month. This is why I decided to bring up one subject that has caused much concern, the revocation of driving privileges for Staff Sergeants and below. Many thought that it was unfair. I want to remind everyone here that driving is a privilege and with privileges come rules that everyone must follow. Failure to adhere to the rules results in a loss of privileges to drive.

The decision to change the policy was not made in an attempt to single out certain personnel or ranks. It was implemented to safeguard 'high risk' service members assigned to the Korean peninsula. We knew it would cause some concern for those ranks identified, so I thought I should use this opportunity to address the reasoning behind the changes.

There has been a significant increase of driving under the influence (DUI) offenses among military personnel. In Fiscal Year 2003, there were a total of 77 military DUIs. Of those offenses, 52 were committed by service members in the ranks of E5 and E6 who were within the 18-25 year old age group.

If you are going to be an NCO you must act like an

NCO. Driving under the influence does not illustrate the NCO Corps value of leading by example.

There are many consequences that Soldiers in South Korea must deal with if convicted of a DUI. These may include dismissal from the service, international hold, jail, fines and many other negative impacts. The major consequence, however, is the negative impact to unit readiness, team morale, and the ROK/U.S. relationship. This, above all, is what we are trying to avoid.

Many junior NCOs felt as if we were targeting them while allowing junior officers to continue their driving privileges. This simply is not true. The change was made based on the history of driving incidents on the peninsula. We identified a group that had the highest incidence of traffic accidents while driving in South Korea. This group is composed of enlisted service members in the grades of E-6 and below. Changing the policy is a safety provision to protect our service members, as well as reducing the potential for mishaps between service members and local citizens.

We have an important mission on the peninsula and must ensure readiness at all levels. We must maintain our ability to be ready to fight tonight.

This is why I decided to bring this subject up now. Safety of our troops on the ROK is our priority. 8th U.S. Army's posture as a Warfighting Force will be sustained while decreasing possibilities for mishaps affecting the local community and ensure that the very best trained service members continue to serve on the Korean Peninsula.

Be Safe!



Welch

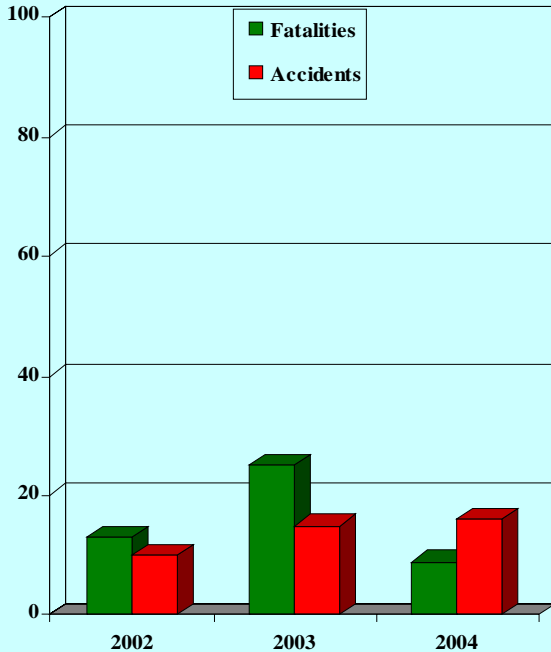


courtesy photo

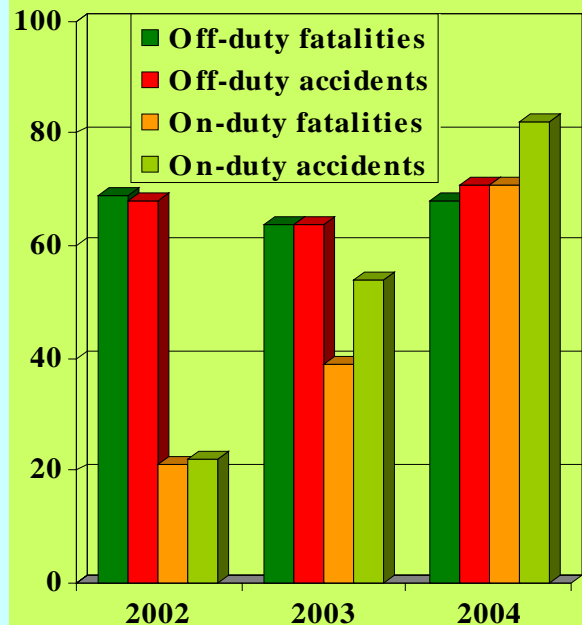
A photo taken at the scene of one of the numerous DUI incidents here during FY04.

Army accidents and related fatalities: 2002-2004

Aviation



Ground



courtesy of Soldiers Magazine

Risk management responsibility

Hot Topics: Army Safety

U.S. Army Safety Center

Army Field Manual 100-14, "Risk Management," dictates that every leader and commander is responsible for protecting Soldiers from unnecessary risks. That responsibility applies to all Army missions, including mission security, morale and welfare, prevention of injuries before, during and after deployments, and avoidance of "friendly fire."

Fulfilling that obligation requires knowledge, experience, and some help. The U.S. Army Safety Center adopted the risk-management process to help leaders identify hazards and make informed decisions to control those hazards. While leaders are good at naming and recognizing hazards, safety officials say leaders often fail to implement controls needed to eliminate or decrease risks.

Choosing ways to mitigate risk is one of leaders' most critical and consequential roles. It starts with discipline, team coordination, by-the-book maintenance and enforced standards.

Leaders are responsible for assessing their operations as total systems. They must ensure that risk management decisions match missions and control measures reduce the risks to levels that support their commanders' guidance.

The degree of risk determines the level of authority at which a decision is made to accept the risk. When resources to control high-risk areas are not available, the issue must be elevated to the next-higher command. The process continues until it reaches a level of command at which hazards can be eliminated or controlled. In this manner, a conscious and informed decision can be made to acquire and commit the resources to control hazards or accept risks.

8th U.S. Army Soldiers are encouraged to review the USFK/ 8th U.S. Army safety website located at 8tharmy.korea.army.mil/safety/default.htm.

There, Soldiers can find South Korea specific safety guidance for summer, vehicle safety, and accidents. Also at this site, Soldiers will find links to the U.S. Army Safety Center and other government safety links.

Powerlifters pull their weight

8th U.S. Army powerlifting team raises bar for safety, excellence

Story and Photo by
Pfc. Michael Noggle
Staff Writer

In any sporting event, athletes take precautionary actions before performing, in order to prevent serious injuries to themselves or those around them.

During the recent 2004 8th U.S. Army Powerlifting Championships, lifters from all military installations on the Korean peninsula explained in detail the type of training that goes into an event such as this.

"One of the most important things in a sport such as powerlifting is safety," said Staff Sgt. Marvin Wideman, a weightlifter from HHC, 2nd Infantry Division, Camp Redcloud. "I always lift with a partner no matter how much I lift."

Each year throughout the Army, numerous injuries occur to Soldiers

that fail to recognize how important it is to take precautionary actions before training. Those Soldiers sustain injuries such as strained muscles in the neck and back regions or torn cartilage in the knees and ankles. Many of these injuries could have been easily prevented by proper stretching techniques and using the right equipment.

"I like to wear the knee wraps and body wrap while I'm squatting," said Capt. James Wright III, HHC Area I commander. "It provides that extra support that will prevent horrific injuries."

Wright and Wideman were among the many lifters to wear support body wraps, wristbands, bench press shirt and knee bandage wraps during certain stations at the powerlifting event. They agreed that if competitors have not already started to wear the weight support aids, then they

should, to prevent potential injury.

Wideman stated that while safety is important for lifters to pay attention to, a healthy and balanced diet is important preparation in the days leading up to a competition.

"I try to stay away from a lot of the fatty foods," said Wideman. "For the four months I'm in serious training, I like to eat a lot of proteins and drink lots of water."

With the proper diet and weight training, the Soldiers who participated in this year's peninsula championship did not suffer any injuries from the event and everyone competed at a high level of intensity.

"I've been able to participate in these events since 1991 because of my attitude in the way I go about training and staying safe."

For information about powerlifting in your area, contact your local Morale Welfare Recreation center.



An 8th U.S. Army athlete prepares to lift a barbell during the 8th U.S. Army Powerlifting finals.

8th U.S. Army/A

An 17th Aviation brigade UH-60
Blackhawk lands at a range near
Pyeongtaek during an exercise Oct. 15.
Photo by Spc. Daniel Love



Safely navigating the ROK's fr

Aviators:

friendly skies

Story and photos by
Spc. Daniel Love
Editor

The aviation branch has numerous massive and technically advanced aircraft which are fast movers, require a lot of resources to sustain and are very dangerous to the enemies of the United States.

Continued on Page 11

A UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter circles before landing in a training area near Camp Humphreys Oct. 15. Photo by Spc. Daniel Love





A 17th Aviation Brigade Soldier practices slingloading procedure at Tom Range near Camp Humphreys during an exercise Oct. 15. 2nd Battalion, 52nd Aviation regiment exercises are conducted several times a year to hone common skills and to stay accustomed to working in the field.

Continued from Page 9

While the Army's war birds serve as a deterrent to freedom's adversaries, they are also inherently dangerous to those who operate, maintain, and support them due to the large amount of moving parts and complicated equipment.

However, during Fiscal Year 2004, 8th U.S. Army aviation Soldiers, specifically those of 17th Aviation Brigade, have proven that while aircraft operation can be hazardous, it can be done in a safe and efficient manner in the Land of

the Morning Calm.

With an unprecedented record of no recorded major accidents, the 17th Aviation Brigade has the lowest accident rate in all of U.S. Army Aviation, and possibly U.S. Army history.

"There's a lot of command stress on safety here," said 1st Lt. Brett Andringa, a B Company, 1st Battalion, 52nd Aviation Regiment platoon leader. "I think being in an aviation unit, we inherently assess risk more continuously than other units. We're always doing risk assessments, I think, because we're more risk

conscious than other units are. People here are thinking about the risks and the different safety measures we can take to counteract the dangers."

Aviation units are prepared for accidents to happen each year. There are many reasons for this, but most are due to human error or equipment failure. While some of the human error cases are the pilot's fault, some accidents are caused by ground crew error.

"There are lots of things we work with that could be dangerous, said Pfc. Tommy L. Thompson, a B Company, 1st Battalion, 52nd Aviation Regiment crew chief. "We work with fuel spills and we also work on top of the aircraft. That's why we have monthly classes on how to protect ourselves and safely use our equipment."

The 8th U.S. Army aviation ground crew operations' safety record also fared well. Andringa attributed this fact partly to the high turnover rate on the Korean peninsula.

"I don't think we're here long enough for complacency to be involved," said Andringa. "Being here is a training opportunity and everybody takes I like to that. There's always a rotation with new Soldiers, keeping it fresh."

Aviation accidents are sorted into groups with coinciding classes depending on the severity of the damage to aircraft and property, or loss of life. Class-A (over one million dollars damage or casualty occurrence) accidents are the most serious, with serious loss to the Army while Class-C accidents Class-C (\$20,000 - 200,000 in damages) and Class-E (less than \$2,000 in damages) are not as significant.

"8th U.S. Army experienced no Class A-C aviation mishaps," said CW4 David W. Johnson, an 8th U.S. Army Safety Officer. "8th Army also flew more this year than in previous years with some units experiencing a 20 percent increase in their flying. No other major

see SAFETY, page 18

Proprietary Responsibility

By Staff Sgt. Kelly McCargo

8th U.S. Army PAO

Camp Humphrey's conducted an Area III armed services disciplinary control board (ASDC), Oct 22 at the Camp Humphrey's legal office courtroom, to allow previously off-limit club and bar owners a chance to refute allegations of prostitution and human trafficking (PHT) misconduct as per the U.S. military's zero tolerance policies.

Criminal investigation division (CID) agents cited evidence of prostitution on the premises of some Area III clubs. The club owners' raised pleas of innocence and compliance with the U.S. military policies.

Through a series of undercover sting operations throughout Area III, CID agents testified that some waitresses at various clubs would negotiate pricing and arrange for sexual encounters with bar employees.

"What is your response about the accusations made against you?" said Clarence Slawson, ASDC board president.

"It's not my fault. Some of the waitresses do this on their own without our approval," one club owner said with a tear streaked face. "I know prostitution is illegal, and I will fire anyone on my staff who is caught doing this—even if it is a rumor, I will fire them. I'm just trying to do my best to serve the public."

Faced with the overwhelm-

See next page

A fight for freedom

By Staff Sgt. Kelly McCargo
8th U.S. Army PAO

Service commanders across the peninsula are decisively engaged in eradication measures as part of a Department of Defense (DoD) zero tolerance policy to combat Prostitution and Human Trafficking (PHT) for all U.S. servicemembers, their spouses, DoD contractors, and civilians worldwide.

For 8th U.S. Army, the measure of success will be the diminishment of cases of prostitution around our camps, following the guidelines of Chapter 78, U.S. Code, Title 22 (Foreign Relations and Intercourse).

This Title, passed by Congress on January 6, 2003, basically states that anyone associated with the DoD will

The first is known as Bar Fining. This is the act of paying an agent to allow a person to accompany you to a seclusion table, dartboard or pool table, thus renting their company.

Another component of PHT is Buyouts. This is the process of buying out or purchasing the remainder of an employee's contract thus fulfilling the employee's obligation to the establishment.

Under the Status of Forces Agreement, Korean authorities in most cases have primary criminal jurisdiction over servicemembers picked up by the Korean National Police for PHT-related violations. If convicted by Korean authorities, servicemembers face up to a year in confinement or three million won fine. USFK can request primary jurisdiction but the Korean authori-

USFK's new regs batt

be prosecuted to the fullest extent for engaging in acts of prostitution. This directive is intended "to combat trafficking in persons, a contemporary manifestation of slavery whose victims are predominantly women and children, to ensure just and effective punishment of traffickers, and to protect their victims." The military's zero tolerance policy on PHT affects 'working girls' everywhere U.S. personnel are stationed worldwide, not only on the Korean peninsula.

Arranging sexual encounters with a prostitute, clearly illegal, is only one component of PHT. Other activities that 'working girls' engage in also constitute actionable offenses for the DoD audience.

ties have the option to approve or deny that request.

The maximum punishment for servicemembers convicted by court-martial for visiting a house of prostitution that has been placed off-limits (USFK Regulation 190-2), or for paying a bar fine, or buying out a contract (USFK Regulation 27-5) is two years confinement, total forfeitures of pay and allowances, reduction to E-1, and a dishonorable discharge. In addition to courts martial, servicemembers face a wide range of disciplinary actions, such as an Article 15, General Officer Memorandum of Reprimand, Bar to Reenlistment, or even an administrative separation with a discharge Under Other Than Honorable



Soldiers can find updated information about off-limits establishments posted on the 8th U.S. Army intranet or on signs posted at every gate.

Conditions—a discharge that can impede servicemembers in the civilian job market.

Family members, DoD civilians and contractors, if convicted by a ROK court for prostitution-related offenses, are also subject to a year of confinement in a ROK prison, or a three million won fine. Family members are also subject to an early return of dependents and a loss of command sponsorship status.

operations, and most importantly, especially in the more remote areas, the support of the Korean National Police.

For those who ask why combat PHT—the answer is simply that it is the law. And, policies are going to be enforced to the fullest extent. U.S. uniformed and plain-clothes authorities will continually inspect both on- and off-limits areas for violators and violations. Aside from

le human trafficking

Contractors could lose their SOFA status and their subsequent right to live in South Korea. DoD civilians face disciplinary actions to include termination.

For human trafficking offenses, such as kidnapping and pandering, the penalties are more stringent, with sentences of up to 10 years.

Comprehensive measures have been put into effect as part of the zero tolerance policy. Numerous radio and television public service announcements about PHT have been running on the American Forces Network. Establishments that catered to PHT have been added to off-limits areas. There has been an increase in courtesy patrols, criminal investigation division (CID) “sting”

enforcing the law, these policies represent a vigorous approach to combating unethical treatment of any and all humans, regardless of race, creed and ethnicity.

U.S. personnel have been vocal about changes in policies in the past, but ultimately U.S. personnel understand that to stay with the Department of Defense, they are expected to live up to a higher standard of professionalism, ethics and moral caliber.

The fact is: PHT will NOT be trivialized. The brutality of human trafficking is now gaining worldwide attention. Whether one agrees or disagrees with the new policies is not the issue—but abiding by them is everyone’s responsibility.

Continued from page 12

ing evidence from the CID agents, the club owner was fearful of her livelihood if her bar was placed off limits.

“I’m going to remind you and all of the club owners present that the club owner is fully responsible for what happens in the club and that includes the conduct of the employees,” Slawson said.

“We are conducting these hearings to protect and preserve the readiness of the force,” said Col. Michael Taliento Jr., Area III U.S. Army Support Activity, commander. “When we place a facility of limits we’re not placing a name off-limits we’re placing the facility.”

If the facility is placed off-limits, Taliento explained it sends a clear signal to the community that the U.S. military will not tolerate PHT violations.

Commanders at all levels are encouraged to stay involved with the local bars their servicemembers frequent and to label any place that doesn’t comply with the PHT policies as off-limits.

A unit Commander from Area III testified before the panel that he placed a bar off-limits after one of his Soldiers confided in him about an incident.

In an effort to marry a young woman, the Soldier was about to get involved in an illegal “buyout” with one of the local clubs.

“My Soldier had been dating a young Russian girl in a ‘band’ for some time,” the commander said. “The Soldier was told he had to pay the ‘promoter’ about \$2-3,000 in order to get the girl out of her contract, in order to marry

see PHT, page 18



Sgt. 1st Class Brian Sutton

Army Sgt. Dustin Peregrin of 1st Battalion, 9th Infantry Regiment and Marine Sgt. Christopher Gimello of 4th Civil Affairs Group, log in the serial number from a captured AK-47 assault rifle in Ramadi, Iraq Sept. 30 during Operation Bulldog. Soldiers also captured ammunition, maps, and communications equipment.

2nd BCT hunts for anti-Iraqi forces

By Sgt. 1st Class Brian Sutton
2nd Brigade Combat Team PAO

2nd Brigade Combat Team launched a sweeping operation in Ar-Ramadi during late September to deny anti-coalition forces safe haven, round up suspected anti-coalition leaders, and exploit weapons caches used against legitimate forces in the area.

This is the third brigade-level operation in as many weeks, with the goal of increasing the security environment for the residents of Ar-Ramadi by keeping enemy forces on the run.

"We will not abandon Iraqi cities and see them suffer the same fate as Fallujah," said Warrant Officer Christopher B. Wallitsch, brigade targeting officer. "We are determined to maintain our foothold in this

city and drive out those who choose to disrupt peace and stability here."

This operation closely follows the last operation, mid September's raid that was successful in routing insurgents and criminal fighters in the city. This operation, Operation Bulldog, netted 75 anti-coalition fighters, as well as ammunition, weapons systems, maps, and communications equipment.

"This brigade combat team will remain relentless in its pursuit of fighters in this city who are targeting the peaceful residents to instill fear within them," said Wallitsch. "We will not stand for that and we are taking every measure necessary to deny those fighters a safe haven from which to operate."

The units fighting on the ground continue to work with Iraqi and U.N. forces to bring peace to Ramadi.

"We can't do it alone," said Wallitsch. "It will take a consistent, coordinated effort between all friendly forces in the area to improve the safety and security of Ramadi."

The 2nd Brigade Combat Team, although an Army unit, is assigned to the 1st Marine Division at Camp Blue Diamond, Iraq, and is augmented with a Marine infantry battalion.

The 2nd BCT deployed from the Republic of Korea in August to replace the 1st Infantry Division, which was operating in the Ramadi area for one year.

The Army recently announced the 2nd BCT will not return to its home station of Korea after its tour in Iraq is finished in one year. Instead, the brigade will be restationed at Fort Carson, Colorado.

Comrade marathon unites ROK/US runners

"Katchi Dalipshida," lets run together!

By Spc. Daniel Love
Editor

While ROK and U.S. forces frequently team up for serious training, servicemembers from the two countries aren't always required to keep their game face on.

Oct. 24 at Jamsil Stadium, over a thousand personnel from all branches and both countries participated alongside civilians from both countries in the 5-kilometer or half marathon (21k) races during the 2nd Annual Korea Defense Daily Comrade Marathon. Hundreds of U.S. servicemembers and civilians were among the runners.

Lt. Gen. Charles C. Campbell, the 8th U.S. Army commander, spoke to the crowd during the opening ceremony.

"In this 2nd Annual Comrade Marathon, we're doing what we do every day," said Campbell. "We're working together, playing together, and building relationships and esprit de corps amongst our servicemembers."

The race wound through the streets of southern Seoul before it twisted onto the Han River park walkway. Korean and American runners were seen carrying each other's flags as they made their way through the course.

"Any time we do anything together it helps the alliance," said Col. William D. Ivey, 8th U.S. Army chief of staff. "People going out and doing something physical is a good way to do something together, and it accentuates the commonalities instead of the differences."

The top male runner in the 5k race was Cpl. Park, Byeong-woo with the ROK Army's 3rd Maneuvering Force, with a time of 15 minutes, 32 seconds. Civilian Kim, Yoo-mi took the women's 5k with a time of 17 minutes, 59 seconds. The top half marathon runner was Shin, Dong-yeok, a civilian

with a time of 1 hour, 10 minutes, and 39 seconds. In second place was Park, Sung-soon, a civilian, with a time of 1 hour, 22 minutes, and 16 seconds.

"Taking part in the community is very important," said Sgt. 1st Class Jeffrey L. Bopp, an 8th U.S. Army G3 sergeant. "This is my fourth marathon, and when I run alongside people and shake their hands, they see a lot more concern and camaraderie than when they see me just walking past on the street."



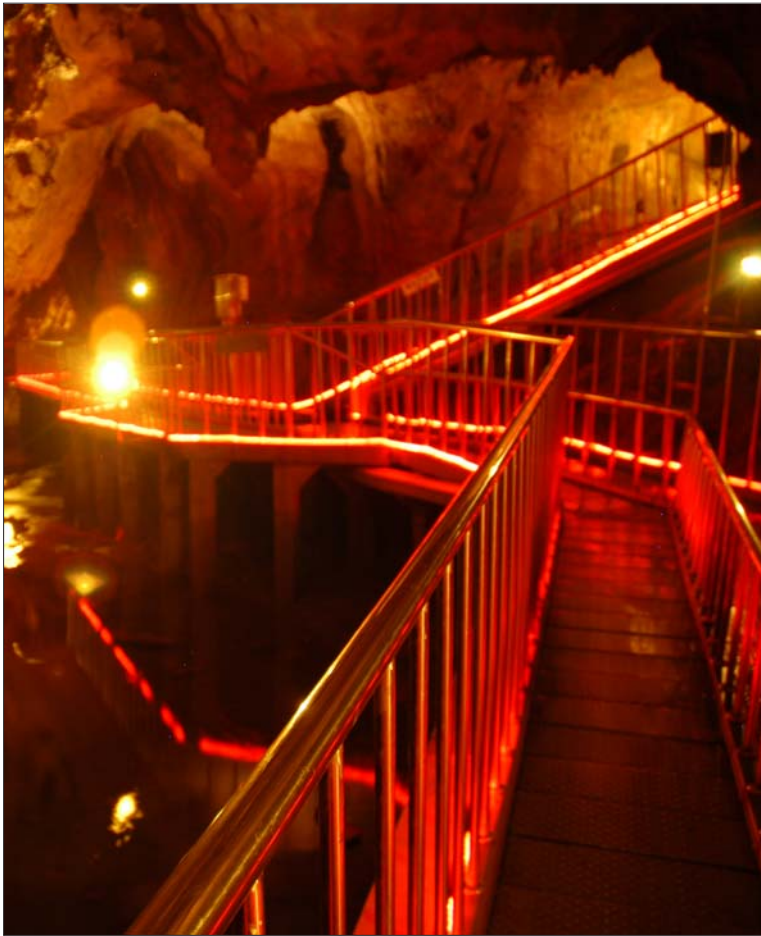
Spc. Daniel Love

A South Korean soldier carries Korean and American flags as he begins the 5k race.

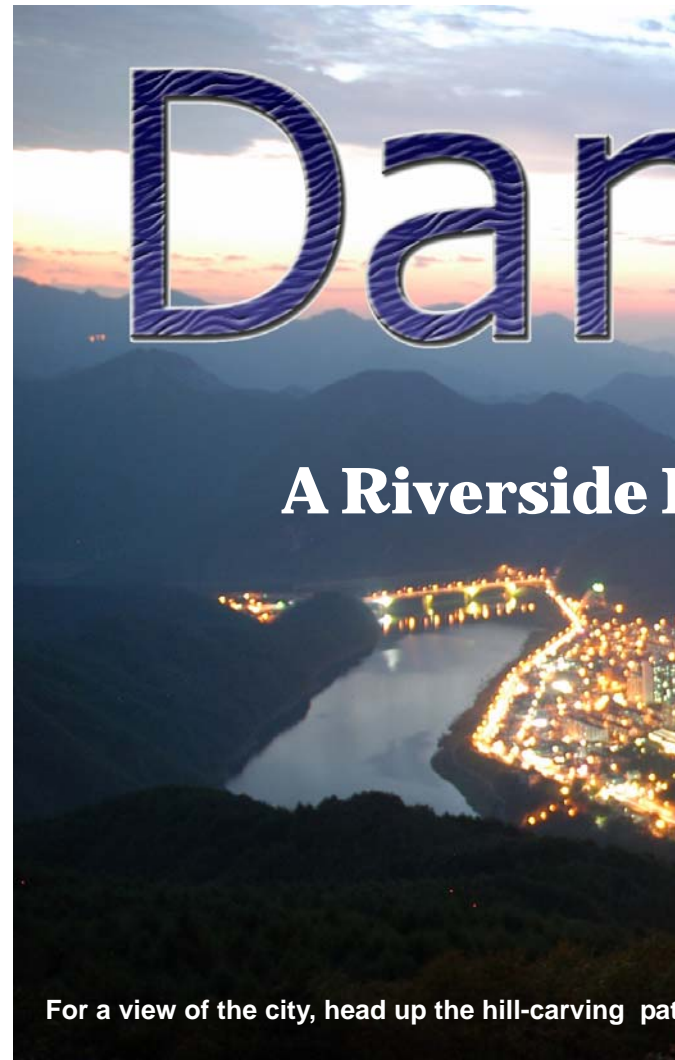


Spc. Daniel Love

Koreans and Americans carry flags and push strollers as they approach the finish line.



The area around the city has several large caves and dozens of small ones that attract spelunkers from across the peninsula. Some of them, like Ondal Grotto, (above) are filled with water.



For a view of the city, head up the hill-carving path.

Story and photos by
Sp. Daniel Love
Editor

While the citizens of Danyang are living in a small town setting, most of them seem happy living a country life. Their city has about 1:260 the population of Seoul, Republic of Korea. While the general population there doesn't speak a lot of English, most seem to know how to say the phrase "beautiful country", perhaps because their tourists have so many reasons to say it.

Danyang city is modern, most structures were built after 1986 when the old city was flooded after the Cheongju Dam was built. While it used to be a small stream, the Han River now creates large, graceful curves across the landscape.

For those with vehicles, a drive along the riverside can be very

pleasant. Trees are organized along the road and the view of the river reflecting the mountains is stunning.

There are many places to stay in Danyang. One of the best ways to stay close to the river is to rent a pension. Pensions can be found up and down the river from Danyang. They're easy to spot: just look for a building that looks like a large American house. Most are equipped with all of the amenities of a hotel, but cost half as much. Many pension owners give tourists free maps of the area that show caves and other points of interest.

The mountains around Danyang have many caves. Some of them, like Gosu Cave, are equipped with catwalks and interior lighting. Lesser-known caves are only for the more adventurous, so bring a flashlight and be prepared to crawl.

The most popular caves are tourist friendly, and don't require any

special equipment. The insides have rock formations that stretch up and down the walls, and look like something out of *Indiana Jones*, but don't have any rolling boulders or spiderwebs.

Another popular Danyang attraction is the massive river. It doesn't flow very fast, and river boat tours are offered at departure points up and down stream. Tourists can take in the scenery that lines the sides of the river.

Taking an express bus is the most efficient way to get there from Seoul. From DongSeoul Bus Terminal (Gangbyeon station, subway line 2, exit 4, across the street on the left) a bus leaves to Danyang every hour. The bus may make a few stops before the final destination, but Danyang is the last stop and everyone has to get off there. Danyang station is on the edge of the main city, near the river boat terminal.



Resort Town

thway that branches from the main bridge (inset). Its quite a hike, so those short of time can take a taxi.



River boat tours are popular in any weather with tourists and locals alike.

SAFETY Continued from Page 11

command in the Army has such a record. When compared to other major combat commands, 8th U.S. Army's record is even more impressive."

While the 17th Aviation brigade's the lofty achievement has been turning heads, the unit commander

credits the achievement to relatively simple safety basics, such as training and leadership.

"8th Army has such a great safety record because we train hard and we are very predictable in our training schedule," said Col. David J. Abramowitz, 17th Aviation brigade

commander. "We have leaders who focus on our wartime mission and we have junior NCO's and officers who understand how to train. We have the time to educate our younger Soldiers because 8th U.S. Army leaders give us the time and resources to do this."

PHT Continued from Page 13

I informed the Soldier that he could be prosecuted under UCMJ if he gave so-much-as a penny to these people," he said. The commander immediately made the bar off-limits for his unit and referred the issue up to his superiors.

Although the Russian girl was a member of a legitimate band, her promoter was manipulating her contract which translates as a possible case of human trafficking. Under scrutiny from the South Korean authorities, the promoter has since moved the Russian girl's band out of

Area III, but the bar owner remains to face the repercussions of dealing with the possible human traffickers.

Under South Korean law, people convicted of human trafficking faces up to 10 years in prison. The establishment will be placed off-limits for U.S. personnel, which would have an adverse affect on the bars income.

The U.S. military is invoking a zero tolerance policy to combat prostitution and human trafficking through a public awareness campaign to further protect the health and safety of its population.



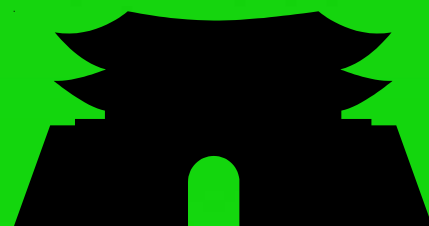
A tour boat floats along the slowly moving South Han River over the submerged site of the old Danyang city.

Christmas 2004 mailing time limits



DESTINATION	1ST CLASS LETTERS/CARDS	PRIORITY	PAL	SAM	SAM (OVER 15lb, 60")
CONUS	11 DEC	11 DEC	4 DEC	4 DEC	N/A
APO/FPO AP	11 DEC	11 DEC	11 DEC	11 DEC	N/A
APO/FPO AE (Exceptions see below)	11 DEC	11 DEC	11 DEC	11 DEC	N/A
APO/FPO AE 09228, 09502, 09508, 09568 09587, 09588, 09593, 09596 09704, 09709, 09725, 09727 09728, 09729, 09730, 09731 09813, 09828	4 DEC	4 DEC	4 DEC	27 NOV	6 NOV
APO/FPO AA ZIPS 340	4 DEC	4 DEC	4 DEC	27 NOV	6 NOV

Christmas mailing tips



- Mail early
- Contact your local MPO for mailing appointments
- Ensure items are packed properly
- Use Registered Mail for high value/irreplaceable items
- Remove batteries from toys and appliances
- Ensure addresses are legible and correct
- Complete custom forms in detail:
 - If you want the gift to be a surprise, attach upper portion of PS Form 2976 on the outside of the parcel and enclose a completed PS Form 2976A inside the parcel.



Final Frame

Rock formations decorating the interior of Gosu Cave in Danyang are dimly illuminated by a multitude of string lights and low-powered floodlights. *Photo by Spc. Daniel Love*

